MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

CONFEDERATION OF INDIAN INDUSTRY

AND

THE AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARDS INSTITUTE

The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and the American National Standards Institute (ANSI):

Recognizing the importance of industry engagement in standards and conformance;

Committed to supporting the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) in its role as India's national standards body and accreditation boards under Quality Council of India (QCI) in their roles as India's national accreditation bodies.

Pledging to promote Indo-U.S. industry training, exchanges and other cooperation programs;

Hereby endorse the following articles of this MOU concerning matters covering industry participation in standardization, conformity assessment and the mutual exchange of information between the respective organizations.

Article 1

CII and ANSI agree to:

(1) exchange views on the activity, operations and program of work of various international and regional standardization and conformity assessment organizations, including but not limited to the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), and the Pacific Area Standards Congress (PASC), with the aim of increasing representation of U.S. and Indian interests in these fora;

Article 2

CII and ANSI agree to:

- (1) facilitate dialogue between U.S. and Indian industry experts in various areas of standardization and conformity assessment as determined by special arrangements between the parties;
- (2) encourage standards organizations in their countries to identify their counterpart groups for the purpose of establishing bilateral relationships, including mutual exchange of information and materials, trade shows/exhibits, and possible joint business ventures, to stimulate industry-to-industry cooperation as a building block to international standardization and free trade;
- (3) work to encourage new areas of cooperation among industry such as smart and sustainable cities, renewable energy and water and sanitation
- (4) enhance the scope of the Standards Portal (www.StandardsPortal.org) developed earlier as a part of this cooperation,
- (5) arrange exchange of visits of the senior members of CII and ANSI; and

- (6) explore organizing and sponsoring conferences, workshops, technical symposia on industryrelated issues in standardization and conformity assessment subjects of mutual interest.
- (7) explore opportunities of cooperation in the conformity assessment area as deemed appropriate by both parties.

Article 3

CII and ANSI agree to exchange, using all appropriate media:

- (1) general information and publications on conformity assessment and its impact on industry in the India and the U.S.;
- (2) general materials for training courses on standardization and conformity assessment developed and published by the respective organizations; and
- (3) periodical publications and other relevant information published by the respective organizations. Further to this item, CII is given ANSI's permission to translate and reprint free of charge any articles published in ANSI Online news (www.ansi.org/news).

Article 4

Any issues arising from the interpretation or implementation of this MOU will be settled through consultations between CII and ANSI or such other means as they may mutually decide.

Article 5

- (1) This MOU can be amended by the written agreement of both parties.
- (2) This MOU is valid until terminated. Either Party may terminate this MOU by providing the other party with a written notice at least six months in advance.
- (3) Notice to terminate or amend the MOU shall not retroactively change the terms of any existing project or program being undertaken by the parties for the specific term of the project or program without consent of both parties.
- (4) Anything done or performed under or by virtue of this MoU shall be subject to the respective laws, rules and regulations of the respective countries of ANSI and CII.
- (5) Any financial implications arising out of this MoU shall be decided by mutual consultations between ANSI and CII in advance.
- (6) The parties to the MoU shall ensure that in the matter of exchange of information, publications and general materials between ANSI and CII there is no breach of intellectual property rights.

Signed in Washington, DC on 22 September 2015.

FOR THE CONFEDERATION OF INDIAN

INDUSTRY (CII)

Director General, QII Mr C. Banerjee FOR THE AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARDS INSTITUTE

President and Chief Executive Officer

Mr. S. Joe Bhatia